



**CLARK UNIVERSITY, SOUTH ATLANTA, GA.**

Founded by the Freedmen's Aid Society in 1870. Has five school buildings in addition to five cottages for teachers. Value of property, \$240,000. Chrisman Hall (picture above), named in honor of Mrs. Eliza Chrisman, is the main building.

they do not know where they will be the next year. A great need is a renting system that will be fair to both the landlord and the tenant and at the same time make the tenant feel contented and keep the farm in high state of productiveness. If these tenants had a little friendly coaching much good would be done.

In Georgia there are 189,939 Negro farm laborers. The majority of these laborers have never seen a well-arranged dairy, fruit, or stock farm. The mule, the scooter plow stock, and cotton are all they know. They must of necessity have a low earning power. And they have nothing to stimulate a desire for better things or a love for the work which the majority of them must follow for a livelihood.

There are 18,700 Negro farm owners in the state. As a rule they do not understand diversified farming. Many of them cannot read the agricultural literature hence have no means of improving their conditions. They want to change their system of farming and raise their standard of living, but they do not know how to do it. The one-crop system of cotton is all they know. For this reason they go on growing cotton, buying their

corn and meat from the West, and allowing the farm which they cultivate to run down for the want of proper information and guidance.

#### **Solving the Negro Farm Problem in Georgia**

When farmers' institutes began among Negro farmers in the fall of 1907, some of the Southern white people said to Director Parks: "There is no doubt about farmers' institutes being a good thing for white farmers, but we are not so certain about Negro farmers. They do not seem to be interested in their own improvements. However, we will see how you come out with this effort." Whereupon Mr. Parks thought he saw the key to the whole situation. These Southern white men must be made to see the wisdom and economic value of helping the Negro farmers to better methods.

There was held at Clark University "a round-up farmers' institute," August 3 to 8, 1908. No effort was made to get a large crowd of local people from the city. The committee advertised for farmers and charged 50 cents per day for room rent and board. In spite of failure to get reduced railroad rates, and other difficulties, there were registered 65 persons from 24 counties; 6 teachers from 5 different counties; 6 preachers from 3 different counties; 52 farmers from 24 different counties. Forty-five of these farmers owned their farms and are highly respected by both white and colored in their communities. As high as \$11.50 railroad fare was paid by some of the farmers to reach the institute, and after being at the institute one day some of the farmers wrote home for their sons.

Clark's department of scientific farming enabled the national agricultural department to distribute one thousand farmers' bulletins among the farmers who knew nothing of its work before, and four hundred farmers' bulletins were placed in the hands of rural school teachers who did not know how to get hold of agricultural information.

#### **Important Needs of this Department**

An agricultural building, including class rooms, reading room and room for making butter and cheese; a dairy barn, including silo, feed cutter, and steam power. These improvements will cost \$5,000 and are absolutely necessary to put the farm on a good working basis. The dairy barn, with silo and feed cutter, which will cost about \$2,500, is an immediate and imperative need.